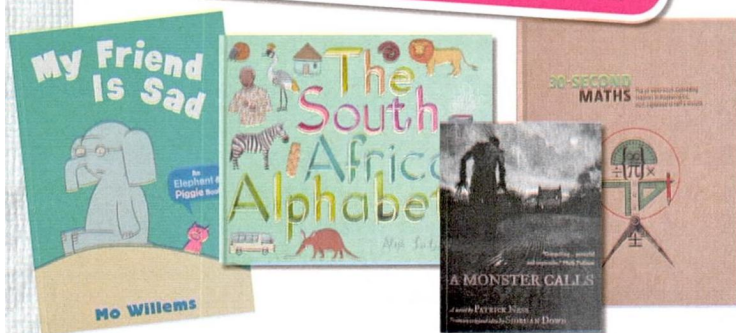




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## 4 SUPER KIDS' READS

**BEDTIME STORIES FOR LITTLES:** We love the **Elephant & Piggie** series by Mo Willems (Walker Books). They're best of friends, as well as terribly sweet and quirky.

**LEARNER READER:** 'S is for Songololo... Y is for Yebo!' You have to love a book that puts a local spin on something as simple as the A, B, Cs. Alex Latimer has infused **The South African Alphabet** (Puffin) with huge gobs of local flavour.

**TEENS (AND MOMS WITH 'MATHS HOMEWORK!')**: We admit, even we were baffled by the sums and fractions in **30 Second Maths** by Richard Brown (Icon). Illuminated with inventive graphics, this unique volume strips the most complex mathematical theories down to two pages max. Buy it for your maths boffin (or for yourself!)

**MUCH OLDER TEEN:** Quite a 'dark' read with macabre illustrations, this isn't for young eyes. Darkly mischievous and painfully funny, **A Monster Calls** by Patrick Ness (Walker Books) is an extraordinarily moving tale of coming to terms with loss.

It's National Book Week from  
**3-8 Sept**, all the activity is  
taking place in **Port Elizabeth**  
More info here: [Nationalbookweek.co.za](http://Nationalbookweek.co.za)

## CRAFTY COLLAGING FOR KIDS

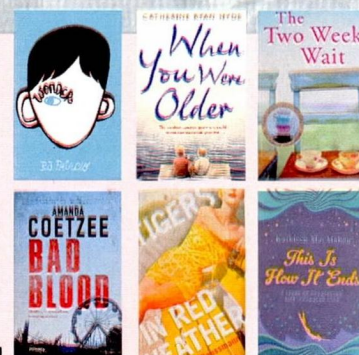
Inside this uber-stylish box, brimming with all sorts of collage goodies, are four blank cardboards, just waiting to be transformed into a sock-wearing kitten, a bumblebee-friendly bear, a starburst mouse and a 'carotty' bunny – great for kids aged 4-8!

While you scrapbook, let their imaginations run rampant with their collage box. **Collages Pour Petits** by Djeco, R220. Visit [Newleap.co.za](http://Newleap.co.za) for stockists.



## ON THE SHELF

## BOOK CLUB PICKS...



### Perseverance, compassion, acceptance

Don't judge a book (boy) by its cover (his face), is the premise of this incredibly moving novel. Born with facial abnormalities, 10-year-old Auggie looks different on the outside, though on the inside he is funny, smart and brave. In **Wonder** by RJ Palacio (RHS), Auggie embarks for the first time on a journey much scarier than any surgery – the 5th Grade.

### Heartbreaking yet uplifting

The quickest decision you make could save your life... **When You Were Older** by Catherine Ryan Hyde (RHS) tells the bittersweet life of Russell. Had it not been for the phone call from home, needing him to return to Kansas to care for Ben, his mentally disabled brother, Russell could have died in the September 11 terror attacks. But any change to routine upsets Ben a great deal. Will Russell cope?

### Hope, resilience, friendship

Lou's time to have a baby is running out. She wants to be a mom, but her partner isn't as set on parenthood. Meanwhile, Cath, and her supportive husband long to be parents but Cath is infertile. Could these strangers help one another out? **The Two Week Wait** by Sarah Rayner (Picador) follows these two women's parallel journeys to create a family.

### Watch out for the twist-in-the-tail climax!

Local author, Amanda Coetzee, through **Bad Blood** (MacMillan) tells us a tale of an abandoned eight-year-old boy, raised by a clan of Irish travellers. All grown up, Harry severs his ties with his adoptive gypsy family and joins the London police force. But just as he thinks he's left his gypsy roots behind him, he's forced to confront his own conflicted childhood.

### Simmering passion and betrayal

If there's one thing you can be sure about in this life, it's that you won't always be kissing the right person... in **Tigers in Red Weather** by Liza Klaussmann (Picador), Nick and her cousin, Helena, grow up sharing sultry summers at the glamorous old family estate. As World War II ends, change is afoot – Helena is leaving for Hollywood and a new marriage, while Nick's husband is coming home.

### Unexpected, life-changing love

What exactly are family ties? Where does love come from, and where is it going? Kathleen MacMahon in **This Is How It Ends** (Sphere) reveals the unexpected obstacles Bruno faces while on a trip to trace his roots in Ireland. There he meets heartbroken Addie, 38, who cares for her elderly father. Perhaps this time Addie will find love again and get the fulfilment she craves.